



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

# NEWS RELEASE

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Department of Toxic Substances Control

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T-24-99  
December 9, 1999  
For Immediate Release

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## **Department Settles With Almanor**

Sacramento--- The California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced that it has reached a settlement with Almanor Manufacturing, Incorporated, 763 Main Street, Chester, California . Under the terms of the settlement, Almanor is required to pay DTSC \$45,000, of which \$5,000 is a penalty, and \$40,000 is reimbursement of DTSC's costs incurred in conducting the enforcement action.

"This settlement provides for DTSC's costs besides ensuring that public health and the environment are protected," said Ed Lowry, DTSC Director. "We require that the facility conduct additional work at the site under DTSC's oversight," Lowry added.

Under the settlement agreement, within sixty days, Almanor must give DTSC a workplan that outlines a hazardous waste investigation of potential groundwater and soil contamination at the facility. In addition, Almanor must send DTSC a certification that all alleged violations listed in a 1999 DTSC Enforcement Order have been corrected.

The settlement stems from an Enforcement Order issued by DTSC on June 9, 1999. The order was issued after DTSC inspections revealed violations at the facility. Violations noted in the Enforcement Order included:

- Storage of hazardous waste without a permit or other grant of interim authorization.
- Disposal of hazardous waste at an unauthorized point. (Wood walkways previously used inside the plating shop secondary containment berm were placed in a pile and burned. Ashes collected from this burn pile contained metals above regulatory levels.)
- Transfer of hazardous waste to a transporter who did not hold a valid registration issued by DTSC.
- Failure to maintain adequate aisle space in areas used for hazardous waste.

- Failure to keep containers of hazardous waste closed unless adding or removing waste.
- Failure to transfer hazardous wastes from deteriorating or leaking containers to containers in good condition.
- Failure to provide all required information on containers of hazardous waste.
- Failure to develop and keep on site a contingency plan to be used in case of emergencies.
- Failure to conduct weekly inspection of areas used for container storage.

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***DTSC is one of the six boards and departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC's mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment by regulating the management of hazardous waste and promoting reduction.***